

Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00 USIA-12 NSC-10

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AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

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E. O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJECT: NEWS REPORT OF HONG KONG MEETING

1. FOLLOWING IS UNCLASSIFIED TEXT OF ARTICLE
APPEARING IN JUNE 26 EDITION OF MANILA TIMES-
JOURNAL, P.3, HEADLINED " DRUG EXPERTS HOLD SECRET
MEET IN HK", SLUGGED " SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL," WITH
DATELINE BANGKOK:

TOP WESTERN NARCOTICS EXPERTS WILL HOLD A
SECRET MEETING IN HONG KONG NEXT MONTH TO
DISCUSS A UNITED AMERICAN- BRITISH STRATEGY
TO DISLODGE THE DRUG KINGS TO ASIA.

THE MEETING IS AIMED AT STOPPING THE FLOOD
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OF HIGH- GRADE HEROIN TO BRITAIN AND AMERICA.
HEROIN IS NOW THE MAIN SOURCE OF THE DRUG
FOR ADDICTS OF BOTH COUNTRIES, AND SELLING
THE DEADLY POWDER IS AN UNDERWORLD BUSINESS
WORTH MILLIONS OF DOLLARS EVERY DAY.

THE AMERICAN TEAM WILL BE HEADED BY THE
DIRECTOR OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF NARCOTICS
AND DANGEROUS DRUGS. HE WILL HAVE WITH HIM
SOME OF THE UNDERCOVER AGENTS WHO HAVE BEEN
STATIONED IN SOUTHEAST ASIA TO STOP THE
FLOOD OF HEROIN.

THESE AGENTS WILL BE COMING FROM VIETNAM,
THAILAND, LAOS, BURMA, THE PHILIPPINES AND
OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE REGION. TOP
NARCOTICS DETECTIVES FROM SCOTLAND YARD
ARE ALSO EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE MEETING.

HONG KONG WILL BE REPRESENTED AT THE TALKS
BY THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, THE COMMISSIONER
OF NARCOTICS AND OTHERS INVOLVED IN THE
SUPPRESSION AND DETECTION OF DRUGS.

THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT REPORTEDLY IS KNOWN
TO BE TREATING THE MEETING AS A MATTER OF
TOP- LEVEL IMPORTANCE. IT WAS UNDERSTOOD
THAT ORDERS HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THOSE TAKING
PART THAT NO DETAILS ARE TO BE PASSED ON TO
THE PRESS ABOUT THE CONFERENCE AND THAT IT
SHOULD BE HELD IN SECRET.

END TEXT.

2. IF QUERIED WE PLAN TO RESPOND THAT WE ARE
UNAWARE OF ANY SUCH MEETING SCHEDULED FOR NEXT
MONTH.

DECON DEC 31, 1974.
HAMILTON

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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